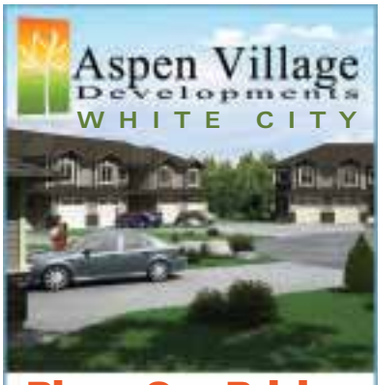
DAY 3
AVALANCHE WEEK

HELPING PAWS

WHEN YOU'RE BURIED UNDER A MOUNTAIN OF SNOW, EVERY SECOND COUNTS. GO TO METRONEWS.CA/PUPPYRESCUE TO WATCH SADIE THE RESCUE DOG AT WORK STORY: PAGES 4 & 5



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It's official: Goodale throws his support behind Trudeau

Federal Liberal leadership candidate Justin Trudeau speaks with media Tuesday after addressing a crowded room at the Hilton Garden Inn in Saskatoon, kicking off the Saskatchewan leg of his campaign tour. JANE CAULFIELD/METRO IN SASKATOON

Leadership bid. Liberal MP gives endorsement as candidate makes his pitch in the province

JANE CAULFIELD
Metro in Saskatoon

Minutes before federal Liberal leadership candidate Justin Trudeau took to the podium at a campaign luncheon in Saskatoon Tuesday, Ralph Goodale — Saskatchewan's only Liberal MP — announced his endorsement of Trudeau.

"What I have been impressed with is Justin's work ethic.... He is absolutely rolling up his sleeves and going to work in every corner of the country," said Goodale at the Liberal leadership event.

"More than anyone else, Justin gets people excited about Canada's potential. He unleashes the hope, the ambition, the optimism necessary to lift Canadians above the grinding mediocrity that has dominated Stephen Harper's years in power," he said.

Trudeau said Goodale has been a strong ambassador to the Liberal party in Saskatchewan — a province currently dominated by Conservatives.

"I'm very proud of the strong role that Ralph has played in speaking up for Western farmers and for the agricultural community right across this country, and we're lucky to have him," said Trudeau.

Tuesday's speech

We need to draw together: Trudeau

Kicking off the Saskatchewan leg of his campaign tour, Liberal leadership candidate Justin Trudeau spoke to a packed room Tuesday about his vision to get all Canadians engaged in the political health of our country.

"This country requires that we draw together, that we understand that the solutions generated right across the country must not be used as leverage to create envy and try to buy votes, but to create a shared prosperity across the country," said Trudeau.

"This land is too big, too empty and too dang cold too many months of the year for us to go at it alone." JANE CAULFIELD/METRO IN SASKATOON

LEED-ing by example

Students at a Regina school get a hands-on lesson in eco-friendly design PAGE 2

On the bayou

No money in New Orleans? No problem. From Bourbon Street to City Park, the Big Easy makes it, well, easy to enjoy the city for free PAGE 10

NEWS 1

NDP membership up heading into leadership convention

Young blood. Youth bump numbers big time in race of four under-40 candidates

ALYSSA MCDONALD
alyssa.mcdonald@metronews.ca

Saskatchewan New Democrats are experiencing a bump in membership heading into their leadership convention in March.

More than 11,000 people in the province are eligible to vote for the new leader of the opposition, a 35 per cent increase from its 2012 membership of roughly 8,000 people.

Cory Oxelgren, president of the Saskatchewan NDP, said the increase is mostly attributed to renewals and a 350 per cent increase within the Young New Democrats membership.

All four leadership candidates are under 40 years old and Charles Smith, assistant professor in politics at STM College at the U of S, says that fact might be contributing to the younger demographics in the party.

"No one candidate can say they are the youth candidate and have been able to build the youth membership. All the candidates have been playing that card and I think refreshingly so," said Smith.

The race has four more debates, including ones in Regina and Saskatoon, before the Leadership Convention on Mar. 9.

In the last leadership race in 2009, NDP membership was approximately 14,000, but Smith says it is a different time for the NDP party.

"It's a harder challenge for the NDP when it's building on an election that saw them slip so far to one of its lowest in recorded history, so they really are building back up from a low starting point," said Smith.

Former NDP leader Dwain Lingenfelter stepped down in 2011 after failing to get a seat in the provincial legislature and interim leader John Nilson did not join the leadership race. They hold nine seats out of 58 seats in the provincial legislature.

NDP leadership candidates

- **Cam Broten,** current MLA for Saskatoon Massey Place
- **Ryan Meili,** family doctor and author, placed second in 2009 NDP leadership race
- **Erin Weir,** economist
- **Trent Wotherspoon,** current MLA for Regina Rosemont

Cory Oxelgren, president of the Saskatchewan NDP, announces final membership numbers heading into the leadership convention in March. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Arcola Community School goes green

The waves above the Arcola Community School's main staircase represent the Northern Lights, just one of the designs which focuses on Saskatchewan geography in the environmentally-friendly new school. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

What does Grade 8 student Brooke St. Jean like best about the new Arcola Community School? The garage doors, of course.

"My favourite part of the school would definitely be that we can open the garage doors so we can work with other classrooms, and work out in the hallway," said St. Jean.

The garage doors connect each self-contained classroom to a bright, window-filled communal space and is just one aspect of the new community school, which was modelled after the Saskatchewan landscape, with yellows, greens and sky blues covering the walls.

The school's design meets the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver standard and includes a green roof, recycled wood pillars, a living wall of plants, and a rainwater collection system.

"These children will be able to see and learn first-hand, factors that affect the environment ... it's a perfect hands-on learning experience," said provincial education minister Russ Marchuk.

The community school serves about 350 students, ranging from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8. The project was started in 2009 and on Nov. 13, classes were finally able to start in the new environmentally friendly space.

Jayden Masney was in Grade 4 when he contributed his opinions to the new school as part of a student re-build committee. Masney, now in Grade 8 and president of the student leadership council, says he sees many ideas the kids wanted in the school.

"Some of the ideas were the open areas and more comfortable furniture and more windows so we are not always, like, locked in a dark room," said Masney.

ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO

Exclusively online

Check out a photo gallery of the school at metronews.ca

Near Esterhazy

Miners safe, but spend day trapped underground by fire

More than 300 miners were trapped underground for several hours after a fire broke out at Mosaic's K2 potash mine near Esterhazy, Sask.

The mine was shut down as crews battled the blaze that broke out about 10:35 a.m. Monday.

The 318 miners working at the K1 and K2 sites raced to underground refuge stations for safety.

It took around three hours for emergency rescue teams to put out the fire and another few hours for the smoke to clear. Brad DeLorey says all employees were accounted for. THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKOM/CTV REGINA

North of Regina

Minor injuries in crash of school bus, semi on gravel road

A crash between a school bus and a semi north of Regina left three students and the bus driver with minor injuries.

Police say the crash happened late Tuesday afternoon on a gravel road north of Zehner.

The bus was pulling out of a driveway when it collided with a semi hauling hay bales.

Mounties say there were just three children on the bus and all were treated at the scene for minor injuries, as was the bus driver.

The semi driver was not injured. THE CANADIAN PRESS/CTV REGINA

Saskatoon

Woman, disabled daughter can stay

The deportation to Romania of a Saskatoon woman and her disabled daughter is not going ahead.

Eniko Reka Kincses says a deportation hearing that was to be held Monday was cancelled.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKOM

Scores of dead bodies dumped in Syrian city

Nationwide violence. Various sources put the number killed on Tuesday at around 160

The bodies of at least 65 people were found in Syria's northern city of Aleppo Tuesday as the government and rebels blamed each other for the mass killing.

The bodies, almost all men in their 20s and 30s, were discovered in the contested neighbourhood of Bustan al-Qasr, according to Rami Abdul-Rahman, director of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Intense clashes between rebels and government troops have raged in the district since opposition forces launched an offensive on Aleppo in July.

Abdul-Rahman said the identities of the dead were unknown and it was not clear who was behind the killings. A government official told The Associated Press that the dead were residents of Bustan al-Qasr.

Syrian state TV said the men were killed by members of Jabhat al-Nusra, an al-Qaida-linked group. It said the men were killed after they demanded members of the group to leave their areas.

An activist group, the Local Co-ordination Committees, put the number of bodies at 80. It blamed government forces for the killing.

The same day, a bomb wounded Abdul-Razzak Qtini, once governor of the province of Hama, as he was in his car, said Abdul-Rahman and a neighbour of Qtini.

Earlier Tuesday, rebels stormed a government intelligence complex in the east, freeing at least 11 people held in a prison there, activists said.

Regime warplanes also carried several airstrikes on rebel positions in restive towns and villages around Damascus, the Observatory said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Protesters demand blood for blood in India

Scores of protesters gathered near India's Parliament on Tuesday demanding the death penalty for six men accused in the fatal gang rape of a young woman on a bus in New Delhi last month. The protesters carried placards saying, "Give us Justice, Hang the Rapists," and shouted slogans before conducting a mock hanging of the men who are facing trial in a special court in New Delhi. Meanwhile, India's Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected a petition to move the trial out of New Delhi. The petition argued that the men would not get a fair trial because of the charged atmosphere in the capital. ALTAF QADRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nightclub. Cheap flares linked to lethal blaze

Penny-pinching by a band known for its onstage pyrotechnic displays may have cost more than 230 people their lives at a nightclub in southern Brazil, according to a police inspector leading the investigation into this weekend's deadly blaze.

"The flare lit was for outdoor use only, and the people who lit them know that," Inspector Marcelo Arigony told reporters at a news conference Tuesday. "They chose to buy those because they were cheaper than those that can be used indoors."

Arigony said that the outdoor flares cost a mere $1.25 a piece, compared to the $35 price tag for an indoor flare.

Police have said the club's ceiling was covered with an insulating foam made from a combustible material.

A malfunctioning fire extinguisher was not legal, Arigony said, and the club's operating licence had expired in August.

"Any child could have seen that this establishment should not have been open," he said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Head of Egyptian army fears slide into anarchy

Burying their dead from Egypt's wave of violence, residents of the coastal city of Port Said vented their fury at their Islamist president on Tuesday, virtually declaring revolt against his rule.

Meanwhile, the head of the military warned Egypt may collapse under the weight of its turmoil.

Gen. Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's grave comments, his first since the crisis began, appeared to push for reconciliation and a solution to the protests and riots across much of the country the past six days.

His words fall heaviest on President Mohammed Morsi, who has failed to contain the unrest as protesters defied his declaration of a month-long state of emergency and curfew in Port Said and two neighbouring cities.

At least 60 people have been killed and hundreds injured since Thursday in clashes between police and protesters. Citizens are raging over what they call Islamist moves to monopolize power and the government's failure to address the country's many woes.

El-Sissi signalled the military would not move to put down protesters, saying troops are in a "grave predicament," forced to balance between "avoiding confrontation" with citizens and protecting state institutions.

In Cairo on Tuesday, rock-throwing protesters clashed with police firing tear gas for another day in battles that escalated after nightfall near Tahrir Square. The mayhem forced the nearby U.S. Embassy to suspend public services. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Kazakhstan

20 die in crash of Canadian plane

A Canadian-made airplane carrying at least 20 people crashed in heavy fog near Kazakhstan's Almaty city, killing all on board.

State news agency Kazinform cites an emergency official as saying the plane was initially denied permission to land due to poor visibility.

The plane then lost its bearings and crashed a few kilometres from the airport. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

India tour

Tories grilled over $1-million armour

The Conservative government is defending the $1-million cost of flying armoured vehicles to India for Prime Minister Stephen Harper, saying it was a security call by the RCMP. Following an assessment, "the RCMP determined there were no appropriate vehicles available," the government said, though an Indian official confirmed an armoured Mercedes was offered. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Quebec quarry

Rescue halted for buried workers

The search was suspended Tuesday night for two Quebec quarry workers who are missing after an apparent landslide swept several vehicles into a pit nearly 100 metres deep.

Two trucks and an excavator were trapped in huge mounds of loose gravel at the bottom of the snowy crater in L'Epiphanie, Que., just east of Montreal.

Police could not explain the cause. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Man's best friend to

Release the hounds.
Metro reporter discovers first-hand what it's like to be buried under snow

MATT KIELTYKA
Metro in Vancouver

Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association's Sadie pokes her head through the snow during a rescue simulation in Revelstoke, B.C., on Jan. 8. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

The only sound I hear is that of my own body breathing in and out.

It's been that way since I climbed into a snug hole carved into the side of Revelstoke Mountain Resort in B.C., and flashed a "thumbs up" sign to ski patrol.

As I lay there in the fetal position, the patroller covered my one escape with large slabs of snow and ice.

"Are you OK? I'm going to fill in the cracks with snow now," he says.

The outside world is silent for the next 15 minutes, although everyone on the surface says they keep trying to communicate with me.

I can't tell.

Today, I'm put in the role of an avalanche victim.

• • •

Al Roberts and his faithful companion Sadie, a seven-year-old Belgian-shepherd cross, bide their time in the kennel on top of the ski hill when Roberts hears "go ahead" over the static on his radio.

Sadie knows it's time to work.

She leaps out of her cage and barks excitedly as Roberts steps into his ski bindings and starts descending the mountain.

In a few minutes, they'll be at the site of a simulated avalanche where a "victim" is buried underneath a pile of snow.

To the naked eye, it's impossible to tell where I'm buried.

Sadie impatiently paces back and forth as they reach the bottom of the run.

"Are you ready to go to work?" Roberts works Sadie up into a frenzy. "Search!"

• • •

The sound of my breathing is joined by a faint rustle overhead.

Although I'm not in real danger, my spirit soars on a gust of optimism as rustling turns to scratching, and scratching turns to the distinct sound of paws digging through snow and hurried panting.

Bits of snow come free and sprinkle down on me as the sounds get louder.

Suddenly an entire block comes down and I see Sadie's wet nose poke through the opening.

She barks, grabs the old, raggedy sweater I'm holding in my left hand and starts tugging at it, helping me as I claw my way out of the cold prison with my free arm.

Roberts, his boots crunching on fresh powder as he races toward us, keeps Sadie motivated.

"What did you find? There's a good girl, good girl."

• • •

It was a minute and 30 seconds from the time Roberts shouted, "Search!" to the moment Sadie homed in on my scent and started digging for me.

Sadie, along with her owner Al Roberts, have been CARDA validated for five years, and in that time, they've honed their rescue skills. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

DAY 3
THE RESCUERS

Tomorrow: Staying Alive
Metro takes you to school on how to survive in treacherous terrain.

Roberts explains that he and Sadie, like all members of the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association (CARDA), are able to cover an area six times that of a team of human searchers in just a fraction of the time when responding to an avalanche.

The effectiveness of rescue dogs can't be understated.

"When you're buried, every second counts," is the tagline used on CARDA's website.

Once on scene, Roberts' job is to see which direction the wind is coming from and send Sadie into it.

"The scent of the person comes out of the snow just like smoke would out of a hole. It takes the path of least resistance, out of the snow and into the wind," he explains.

"Once the dog gets into the scent cone, they can pinpoint where it's coming from. You can see their head just snap back and you can tell there's something there. They become more intent on finding where the scent is coming from, and as soon as they find it in the ground they just dive right in."

And anyone buried underneath is usually glad they do.

Avalanche control forecaster Troy Leahy and his rescue dog, Penny, are two of the most

Exclusively online

"She's a total lifesaver and obviously a pro" — go to metronews.ca/rescuepuppy for the video of our reporter being dug out of the snow by Sadie the Revelstoke rescue dog.

Sadie
MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Veteran Revelstoke Search and Rescue volunteers Zuzana Driediger, right, and Buck Corrigan say self-rescue is the norm when avalanches hit in the backcountry. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Search and rescue volunteers

When a fatal avalanche strikes in the B.C. backcountry, it's search and rescue volunteers who face the grim task of recovering the bodies.

Situated in what is known as the "powder belt," and boasting the most vertical ski resort in North America, Revelstoke is home to a huge contingent of highly experienced search and rescuers.

Buck Corrigan, a veteran manager at Revelstoke Search and Rescue (SAR) who helps co-ordinate a team of about 60, says despite the high seasonal risk, avalanche calls to his office aren't that common. Thanks to the proliferation of knowledge and more people than ever carrying avalanche kits, he gets perhaps one or two per season.

"We went to one last year and it was over before we got there," he says. "The local group had done a self-rescue, and there was one fatality and by the time we got there it was over. They had recovered the fatality.

"In this part of the world, it's just accepted that you don't go out without a certain amount of equipment."

When an avalanche call does come in, an automated call gets sent out to the experts, day or night, who then rally at a muster station. The SAR team will include a technician to do a risk assessment, paramedics, avalanche rescue dogs and a helicopter and heli-sling technicians.

Zuzana Driediger is a part-time Revelstoke SAR volunteer with 20 years' experience. She says some calls are more stressful than others — such as the Size 3.5 avalanche (out of a zero-to-five scale) that killed two men in 2010 while 200 snowmobilers were attending an

the rescue

familiar faces for skiers at Revelstoke Mountain Resort in B.C. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

pros at keeping calm in crisis

Quoted

"You kind of accept it that that's part of the game in the mountains."

Zuzana Driediger, Revelstoke Search and Rescue volunteer, acknowledges fatalities can take a toll in her line of work

annual competition at nearby Boulder Mountain.

She recalled that at one point crews had to stop a man from building a bonfire and pouring gas on it, because the smoke was impeding rescue helicopters. She spent three days on the scene with her avalanche rescue dog, Hero, who used his keen sense of smell to help ensure the site was clear and no one was still buried.

"I personally try to stay calm and collected and just look at the big picture and focus on safety first and what's important," she said of how she copes in a crisis.

"At the time I'm not very emotional. I just focus on the task at hand, but sometimes, yeah, it does affect you later on if there's fatalities involved, but you kind of accept it that that's part of the game in the mountains."

Emergency Management BC reimburses all volunteer search and rescue groups for the costs of each rescue, while community organizations help raise money for new equipment.

KATE WEBB/METRO IN VANCOUVER

K9 heroes

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

The CARDA dogs of Revelstoke

1 Penny

Four-year-old Labrador/ golden retriever cross

Handler: Tory Leahy
Bio: While Leahy, an avalanche control forecaster at Revelstoke Mountain Resort, is out ensuring the ski hills are safe for the public, Penny usually isn't too far behind.

2 Hero

Five-year-old German shepherd

Handler: Zuzana Driediger
Bio: As part of the Revelstoke search and rescue team, Hero's most notable mission was responding to the aftermath of the 2010 avalanche at Boulder Mountain during a snowmobiling event that involved more than 200 sledders.

3 Sadie

Seven-year-old Belgian shepherd cross

Handler: Al Roberts
Bio: A well-trained dog with a keen nose, Sadie is also a fan favourite on the slopes, especially when surprised skiers watch her jump onto a chair lift on her own.

About CARDA

Born out of a loose, but long-standing partnership between the RCMP, Parks Canada and the ski industry, the Canadian Avalanche Rescue Dog Association officially formed in 1982 as a non-profit volunteer organization. There are currently 28 validated CARDA teams (made up of an owner and his/her dog) active in British Columbia, Alberta and Yukon Territory. Teams must be re-validated each year and must attend a winter training course at least every second year.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

In New York, RIM set for big reveal

A BlackBerry is born. Wednesday's launch marks start of ad blitz to keep hype alive

A prototype of the new BlackBerry 10 operating system seen last fall. GETTY IMAGES FILE

After several technical blunders, two unexpected delays and one major shakeup in its leadership, BlackBerry-maker Research In Motion is about to raise the curtain for its new smartphone devices in hopes that consumers share the excitement.

The unveiling of the phones and operating system on Wednesday marks the start of an advertising blitz that will stretch to social media, the Super Bowl and beyond as RIM tries to regain the cool factor that was once firmly in its grasp.

If all goes according to plan, the event will also mark the end of a troublesome 12 months that has seen RIM try to stay afloat while its future was constantly in question by outsiders, and its stock price tumbled to the lowest level in about a decade.

While the first hurdles to overcome on Wednesday are the opinions of tech analysts and investor reaction, the true measure of success — actual sales of the phones — is still weeks away.

As a crowd of thousands gathers Wednesday at Pier 36, a massive entertainment venue on the shores of Manhattan, chief executive Thorsten Heins will step onto the stage holding the BlackBerry that has been at once considered the company's last hope, but also its biggest hurdle.

Online

Visit metronews.ca for live coverage of the BB10 launch.

When Heins took the reins at RIM just over a year ago, the new devices had already been delayed from a launch in 2011. Then in June of last year, he was forced to further push the debut into 2013, missing crucial sales periods like the back-to-school and Christmas holiday shopping seasons.

While analysts hated the idea of another delay, it also bought the company some extra time to tweak the software to capitalize on the weaknesses of competitors' smartphones.

One of those features is the BlackBerry Balance technology, which allows one phone to operate as both a business and personal device entirely separate from each other. Another one lets users seamlessly shift between the phone's applications. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hey! Where'd Beijing go?

A cyclist passes a flag-raising ceremony during severe pollution at Tiananmen Square on Tuesday in Beijing. Thick, off-the-scale smog shrouded eastern China for the second time in about two weeks, forcing airlines to cancel flights because of poor visibility and prompting Beijing to temporarily shut factories and curtail fleets of government cars. The U.S. embassy reported an hourly peak level of PM2.5 — tiny particulate matter that can penetrate deep into the lungs — at 526 micrograms per cubic metre, or "beyond index." Over a 24-hour period, readings were more than 20 times higher than World Health Organization safety levels. FENG LI/GETTY IMAGES

GET ON BOARD WITH REGINA TRANSIT'S NEW PLAN
Check out the new routes and share your feedback.
Regina Transit wants to make service faster and more efficient for all customers. In order to do so, we're planning significant changes to some of our existing routes. Join us at one of our upcoming Information Sessions to learn more about the proposed changes.
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3 to 8 p.m.
Southland Mall
February 1st
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Albert Scott Community Centre
February 4th
5:30 to 8 p.m.
Northgate Mall
January 31st
3 to 8 p.m.
Victoria Square Mall
February 2nd
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
University of Regina Riddell Centre
February 5th
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
777-7000 | Regina.ca
City of Regina | REGINA

Oscars. Ontario firm is in charge of little gold men

Every year at the Academy Awards, the big question is: Who does the Oscar go to?

This year, there's a new one to trip up trivia buffs: Where does the Oscar come from?

For the first time in its venerable history, Hollywood's most prestigious accolade is being manufactured under the watch of a Canadian company. St. Regis Crystal of Markham, Ont., purchased Oscar's Chicago-based manufacturer R.S. Owens last December and with it, R.S. Owens' 30-year tradition of making the gold-plated statues.

Company decisions now come from southern Ontario, but the Oscars are still being made at the Chicago foundry, says St. Regis vice president Jeff Firkser. "This particular award is a cast award and it's not going to change," he said. "It's going to always be done there." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Roast renaming

Give that blonde a makeover

The days of ordering up a tall blonde at your local Starbucks may be drawing to an end. The company is looking for suggestions to rename its blonde roast, currently called Veranda Blend, through a Canada-wide online contest that runs until Feb. 10.

A few of the suggestions so far include Smooth Silky Blonde, Temptress, Steamy and Morning Kiss. On the not-so-racy side of things, there's Yellow Mellow, Winter Flurry, Morning Light and Liquid Gold.

The winning moniker will go on Canadian menus and packaging. Judges will choose three finalists based on appropriateness, feasibility, and originality and creativity. Those entries will be posted online in late February for a public vote. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Market Minute

DOLLAR 99.76¢ (+0.41¢)

TSX 12,830.56 (+14.64)

OIL $97.57 US (+$1.13)

GOLD $1,660.80 US (+$7.90)

Natural gas: $3.26 US (-3¢)
Dow Jones: 13,954.42 (+72.49)

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GO LEGLESS AND GET AHEAD THIS YEAR

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Back in the bad, old days when everyone in Canada was nearly Scottish, there was one New Year, Jan. 1, and that was it.

Today's infinitely more diverse (and interesting) times mean you have multiple opportunities to slough off the old year — like the skin of a snake — and begin anew.

And wouldn't you know? Coming up, it's the Year of the Snake for followers of the lunar calendar, on Feb. 10.

The snake is the sixth sign in the Chinese zodiac, and snake years happen in intervals of 12. Last year was a dragon year, which you might argue is a more impressive member of the reptile family, but don't sell the snake short.

2013

Never stab a snake in the back, because a snake never forgets and always gets the last word.

The snake (in short) is good at and for business. This year is specifically a year of the water snake, which means, according to various Chinese astrologers, those born under the sign are influential, insightful, intellectual, motivated and determined to succeed. Snakes keep to themselves, don't talk much, and are smarter than you. When you're together in the boardroom, you really want to know what they're thinking, but haven't the faintest idea.

Snakes make great scientists and investigators. They're relentless.

Never stab a snake in the back, because a snake never forgets and always gets the last word.

What's sauce for the snake is swamp water for the Tiger, i.e. yours truly. Tigers and snakes are on completely different paths. If you have a snake in the house, you will never go hungry. If you have a tiger curled up in front of the fireplace, you're safe. Just don't expect them to get along.

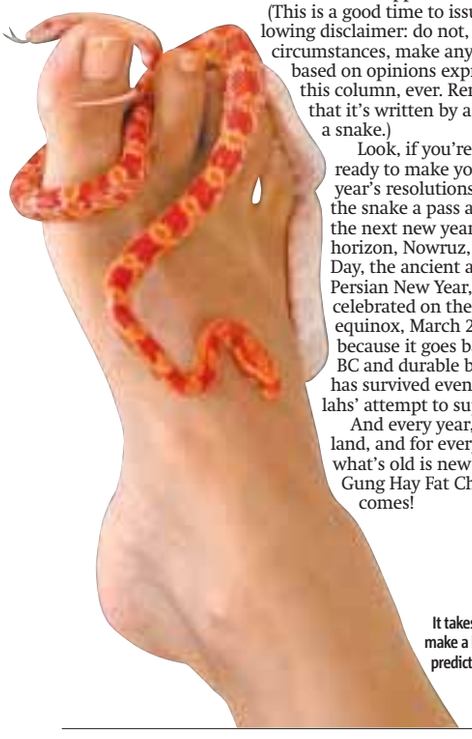
Knowing your snakes from your tigers can be useful for making bold predictions about the coming year. According to geomancer and philosopher Paul Ng of Richmond Hill, Ont., the Year of the Snake will be a good year for water-oriented businesses such as fishing, but also a good year for metal and earth industries, such as real estate, except in Scarborough, Mississauga and Vancouver. It will be a bad year for communications and the Internet, so unload that Apple stock.

(This is a good time to issue the following disclaimer: do not, under any circumstances, make any decisions based on opinions expressed in this column, ever. Remember that it's written by a tiger, not a snake.)

Look, if you're still not ready to make your new year's resolutions, just give the snake a pass and go to the next new year on the horizon, Nowruz, or New Day, the ancient and durable Persian New Year, which is celebrated on the spring equinox, March 21. Ancient because it goes back to 550 BC and durable because it has survived even the Ayatollahs' attempt to suppress it.

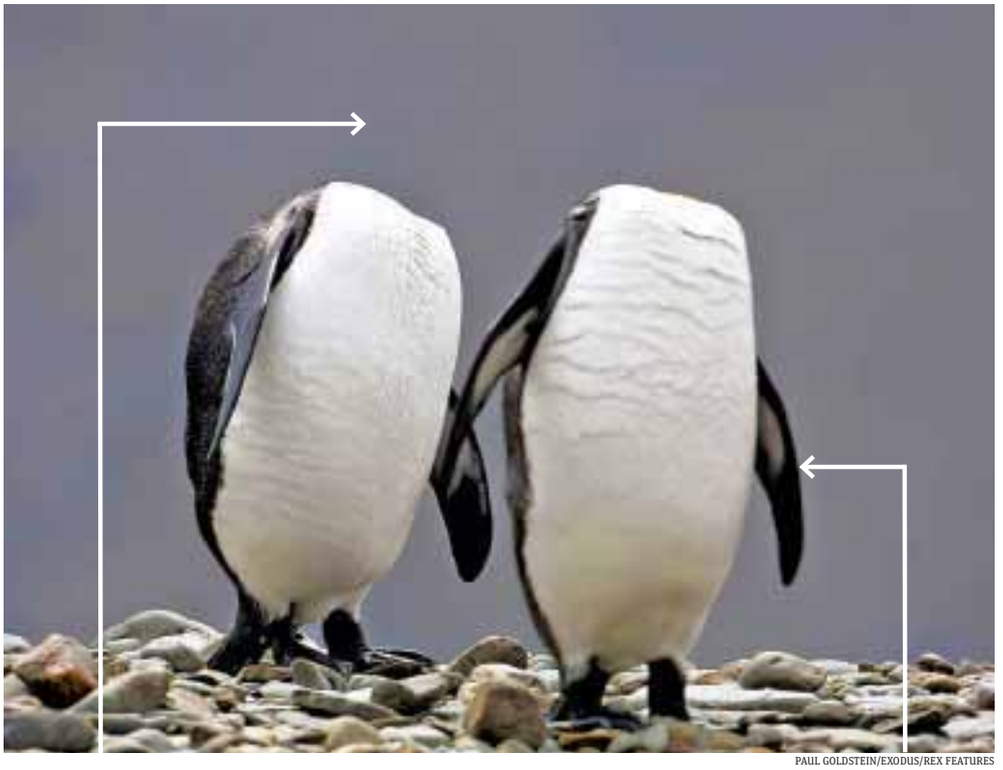
And every year, in every land, and for everyone, what's old is new again.

Gung Hay Fat Choy, when it comes!



It takes a real snake to make a bold new year's prediction. GETTY IMAGES

Heads off to you, Pingu



PAUL GOLDSTEIN/EXODUS/REX FEATURES

Wildlife photography

Not a good time to lose one's head

It appears that penguins can be camera-shy, too.

Wildlife photographer Paul Goldstein took this amusing image of two seemingly headless king penguins at St. Andrews Bay on the British overseas territory of South Georgia. As it turned out, the flightless birds were bending their heads backwards using their double-jointed necks.

METRO

Photographer's viewpoint

"Initially I was just glad to be able to isolate a couple of these to photograph. It is so difficult normally as there are a quarter of a million others to clutter the background."

Paul Goldstein, photographer and tour guide for travel company Exodus

Never get a head

Keeping composure is tough to do

The London, England-based photographer recalls his encounter with the playful pair.

"One penguin had reverted to normal by the time I got the camera up but then it hid its head again, and its mate did it, too," Goldstein said. "I just managed to keep the camera still enough as I was laughing so much — to them it is a perfectly normal manoeuvre, but to me, not so."

METRO

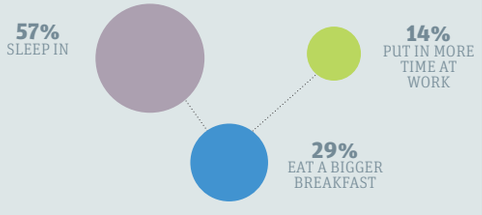
South Georgia Island

- **Location.** Sits 1,390 kilometres to the east of the Falkland Islands.
- **Population.** Approximately 2.23 million pairs of king penguins, with numbers rising. No human population.
- **Life.** Cold, highly-oxygenated waters promote marine life. Krill, the shrimp-like crustaceans at the base of the food chain, thrive here.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What would you do with extra time shaved from your daily commute?



Twitter

@TdotRegina: High of -29 tomorrow for #YQR. I have high expectations for #GroundhogDay this weekend. Just sayin'

@HorrorFanEdge: First time I've ever been in the Regina Airport and it looked like Pearson!! #peopleeverywhere #delayed #yqr

@MatttyJames: Anyone saying the new Stadium looks like a toilet bowl has apparently never seen a toilet #yqr

@janessacharney: Walk to class "are you crying?" walk to lunch "are you crying?" NO, it's the 98375km wind in my face OKAY #sask @BCrestProblems

@metz730: After driving in other parts of the country & the US, I wonder if adding tolls to SK roads would make them safer? @PremierBradWall #skpoli

metro

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SCENE 2

Cineplex resurrects classic films in high-def

Some films cited as classics can be enjoyed as historical artifacts, more appreciated for their aesthetics and less for their urgent, contemporary effect. But the spate of motion pictures selected to be screened as part of Cineplex's fourth annual The Great Digital Film Festival are rare in that they are indeed landmark movies and play as good today — if not better — than they did in their respective eras. Running at select Cineplex theatres from Feb. 1 to 7, the Great Digital Film Festival programmers are spotlighting sumptuous new high-def prints. Here are a few of Metro's primo picks.

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca

A Clockwork Orange (1971)

As disturbing and viscerally alive as ever, Kubrick's razor-sharp satire is a must see big-screen experience. Malcolm McDowell is ultraviolence personified, Wendy Carlos' music still chills and the director's trademark dissonance has never been more prominent.

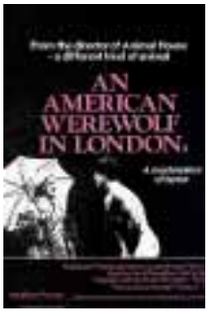
Exclusively online

Cynthia Loyst, a host of InnerSPACE, breaks down genres you don't want to miss at metronews.ca.

Jaws (1975)

The film that sparked the template for the contemporary Hollywood blockbuster, Spielberg's iconic and terrifying chomp on Peter Benchley's killer shark book is a perfect film, from stem to stern (of the Orca, natch).

From the performances (Roy Scheider, Robert Shaw, Richard Dreyfuss) to John Williams' double bass note driven score, JAWS is an epic, genre defying gem.



An American Werewolf in London (1981)

"Stay clear of the moors." A wiser warning never spoken in cinema and it's a shame the heroes of John Landis's maverick comedic shocker don't heed it. Then again, if they did we wouldn't have this visionary blend of humour and horror; part tragedy, part love story and jolted by Rick Baker's Oscar winning prosthetic man-to-wolf transformation sequences that have never, ever been bettered. This writer, for one, cannot wait to hear that blood-curdling howl screaming digitally from the screen.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981)

The first and best of the Indiana Jones films, this mega-hit is another rousing, vintage Spielberg adventure classic, one that demands to be seen on a gigantic screen.

Who needs 3D when that monstrous boulder comes crashing through the cave in the films' much copied opening sequence? This one is a generational right of passage. Take the kids.

Casino (1995)

The same creative team behind the much-lauded gangster drama Goodfellas (Scorsese and writer Nicholas Pileggi) re-teamed for this sprawling look at the dark side of mafia-ruled Las Vegas circa the '60s and '70s and though it's been called inferior to its predecessor, a second (or third or fourth) look might change some tunes. Robert DeNiro's best performance bumps up against Joe Pesci's mania, but the real treat is Sharon Stone as a playgirl who malfunctions with Shakespearean aplomb. Amazing pop music score too.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Bradley Cooper. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bradley Cooper back pedals on Armstrong movie

Despite telling BBC News earlier this month that he'd be up for starring in a J.J. Abrams-produced biopic on disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong, Oscar-nominee Bradley Cooper insists he's not interested.

"Oh my God, that's so nuts," Cooper tells Access Hollywood, adding that he "had no idea what (the interviewer) was talking about" during the red carpet chat.

Dazed and confused

"(I) had no idea what (the interviewer) was talking about."

Bradley Cooper
Talking about being confused over a question on the Lance Armstrong movie

"I didn't even know that J.J. ... has the rights. I had no idea."

The Word

Stay classy Brandi Glanville

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Holy cats, you guys. Brandi Glanville is insane. How do we know this (besides reading every tabloid story ever)? Let me present to you some excerpts from the The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills star's new book, Drinking & Tweeting and other Brandi Blunders, which were obtained by Life & Style.

Her reaction after finding out about her then-husband, Edward Cibrian's, affair with LeAnn Rimes:
"I'm not entirely sure how I ended up on the floor of my closet sobbing ... a teary-eyed Eddie found me lying there minutes later, and without saying so much as a word, he started kissing me all over ... he pulled off my workout pants and we started having sex right there," she recalls. "He swore up and down my body that it wasn't true ... that it was completely innocent. In that moment, it was easier to believe him, because I just couldn't stand the thought of being without him."

How she would go about her revenge:
"A brand-new vagina would be an Eddie-free vagina. ... I decided that since Eddie had ruined my vagina for me, he could pay for a new one. I gave (the doctor's office) Eddie's credit card number," she says about undergoing a vaginal rejuvenation for $12,000.

But, really, no hard feelings:
"I would like to thank my ex-husband, Edward Cibrian, for giving me all the material I could ever need to write this book and for helping me discover the strong, independent woman inside of me," she writes, in Drinking & Tweeting, which will surely be a New York Times bestseller.

Quoted

"I'm not entirely sure how I ended up on the floor of my closet sobbing."

Brandi Glanville

Channing Tatum

Tatum taking a glass-half-full approach to parenthood

Channing Tatum is terrified of his impending parenthood, but in a good way.

"I mean, I don't think there's one thing that doesn't terrify you, but in the most unbelievably beautiful way," the 32-year-old Magic Mike star tells E! News.

"Someone said it's really like watching your heart jump out of your body and run around, and I think that can possibly be the coolest thing that I've heard of."

As for how wife Jenna Dewan-Tatum is handling pregnancy?

"I mean, women just sort of turn into, like, animals in this sort of stage that they're in," he says. "She's a complete animal right now. You can ask her, but in the most beautiful, like, humanistic animaly way. You know, she works out all of the time, eats right, impeccably right. She's just a machine."

Daddy-to-be

"I don't think there's one thing that doesn't terrify you, but in the most unbelievably beautiful way."

Channing Tatum
On the impending birth of his first child

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Great Wage! Meet New People! No Experience Needed!

It's expensive to be a tourist in a town that's hosting two of the biggest events of the new year — Mardi Gras and the NFL Super Bowl — but New Orleans has plenty of free things to do. The nearly 300-year-old French city has walkable neighbourhoods and scenic public parks dotted with centuries-old oak trees draped in Spanish moss, along with a free ferry and historic market.

PHOTOS AND STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 Free things to do in New Orleans

Mardi Gras and Bourbon Street

New Orleans is perhaps best-known for hosting one of the biggest free parties in the world: Mardi Gras. The Carnival season includes parades with costumed riders, marching bands and decorated floats, but it only lasts a few weeks. Visitors can get a taste of the madness and revelry of Carnival any time of year on Bourbon Street, the city's most famous thoroughfare, where scantily-clad women beckon patrons from strip club doorways and beads are flung from balconies to revellers down below year-round. It's also a hot spot for live music, which spills out onto the street from clubs with doors and windows flung open. And finally, Bourbon Street is a the one place where a costume can be flaunted any time of year.

Jackson Square

Artists painting on canvas, clowns making balloon animals, street performers and jazz musicians are among the free entertainment to be found in Jackson Square, a one-block section of the French Quarter anchored by a lush green space with benches set amid gardens and grand oak trees. The square is bordered by pedestrian-only walkways with restaurants, storefronts and upper-level balconies boasting decorative ironwork. Benches allow visitors to take in the architecture of the square's historic buildings, including the Cabildo and Pontalba Apartments, believed to be among the oldest apartment buildings in the country. Visitors are also welcome at St. Louis Cathedral, a place of worship for Catholics since the 1720s. jackson-square.com

City Park

City Park is the largest green space in New Orleans, with more than 1,300 acres of gardens, lagoons and walking trails set amid centuries-old oak trees draped in Spanish moss and filled with birds. The New Orleans Museum of Art is located in the park, and while there's a fee to enter the museum, just beyond the museum are dozens of art objects you can see for free in the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden. The sculptures, valued at more than $25 million, can be viewed in a relaxing setting that includes meandering footpaths, pedestrian bridges and reflecting lagoons. Among the artists represented are Antoine Bourdelle, Gaston Lachaise, Henry Moore, Jacques Lipchitz, Barbara Hepworth and Seymour Lipton. neworleanscitypark.com.

Mississippi River Ferry

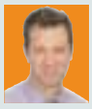
A boat ride is one of the best ways to get a look at the New Orleans skyline and the Mississippi River's daily parade of river barges, steamships and cruise ships. The Algiers Point ferry, which has been in operation since the early 1800s, is free to pedestrians. It runs every 30 minutes between the landing at the foot of Canal Street near the Aquarium of the Americas and the historic Algiers Point neighbourhood directly across the river from the French Quarter. Algiers Point, established in 1719, boasts a trove of historic Victorian-style homes, magnolia tree-lined streets with several parks, cafés, historic churches and bars with live music. But perhaps its best feature is an unobstructed view of the city's skyline and river traffic.

French Market

The smell of sweet pralines and freshly-brewed coffee wafts through the air of the New Orleans French Market. The centuries-old commercial hub stretches for several city blocks along the banks of the Mississippi River in the French Quarter and includes Cafe du Monde, home of the deep-fried, sugar-coated beignet, a popular New Orleans pastry. The market is a mix of open-air retail spaces dotted with produce stands and enclosed stores carrying specialty clothing and jewelry. It's an ideal destination for window shopping and people watching. The French Market dates to 1791 and was originally the site of a Native American trading post. European immigrants traded there, as did African-Americans selling coffee, pralines and calas, a rice fritter popular in 19th century New Orleans.

Travel tips

Don't fail your fitness routine



ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

If you are a road warrior anxious to keep the pounds off and the heart rate up, here are some tips to help you stay fit on your next trip.

Don't under estimate the effect jetlag can have on energy and motivation levels. Avoid it by drinking lots of water and staying away from alcohol and caffeine before, during and just after a flight. Adjust eating and sleeping schedules to your local destination time immediately.

Check in to a hotel with a proper fitness facility. The fully out-fitted health club you imagine, with dozens of treadmills, pilates classes and a gorgeous personal trainer could turn out to be a solitary rowing machine tucked into an old photocopy room. Nothing is more un-motivating than a lack of good equipment. When making your room reservation, ask the agent to describe exactly what the gym has to offer.

Go a step further and choose a hotel that promotes fitness. The Westin hotel chain has a running concierge program where one of the staff will take you on an early morning jog in the local area. They will even lend you New Balance running and work out gear if yours was forgotten at home. Sign up when you check-in. A written commitment will make it harder for you to hit the snooze button.

Hit a local gym. If you just can't find accommodation that suits both your business and health needs, then look outside the hotel. Just ask your concierge for a recommendation for a nearby gym or club that offers a day pass.

Stay near a park, along a river or next to a lake. These natural running routes are a great way to combine fitness with a little sightseeing. On business trips to London, I always stay at the Park Lane Hotel. Situated next to Hyde Park, it allows me to squeeze in a half-hour run and catch a glimpse of some of London's most famous landmarks.

Bring your favourite workout DVD with you. Even if the hotel doesn't offer DVD players in the guest rooms, just pop it into your laptop.

Apricot and Cherry Salsa makes sidekick for turkey

ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit
rosereisman.com

Most supermarkets now sell boneless turkey breast, which is leaner than chicken. A 3 1/2-ounce serving of chicken has about 140 calories and 3 grams of fat, while the same amount of turkey breast has 120 calories and 1 gram of fat!

If you can't find these cutlets, ask your grocer to slice boneless breast into scaloppini.

Dusting it with flour keeps the turkey moist and dried fruit salsa is an ideal accompaniment.

Serve the scaloppini over Sweet Potato Mash, with grilled vegetables alongside.

Ingredients

- 4 turkey scaloppini
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp vegetable oil

Salsa

- 1/4 cup chopped dried apricots
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/3 cup diced green onions, white part only
- 1 tsp crushed fresh garlic
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro
- 3 tbsp apricot jam
- 1 tbsp pure maple syrup
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp apple cider vinegar or freshly squeezed lemon juice

Garnish

- 3 tbsp chopped cilantro or parsley

Turkey Scaloppini with Apricot and Dried Cherry Salsa

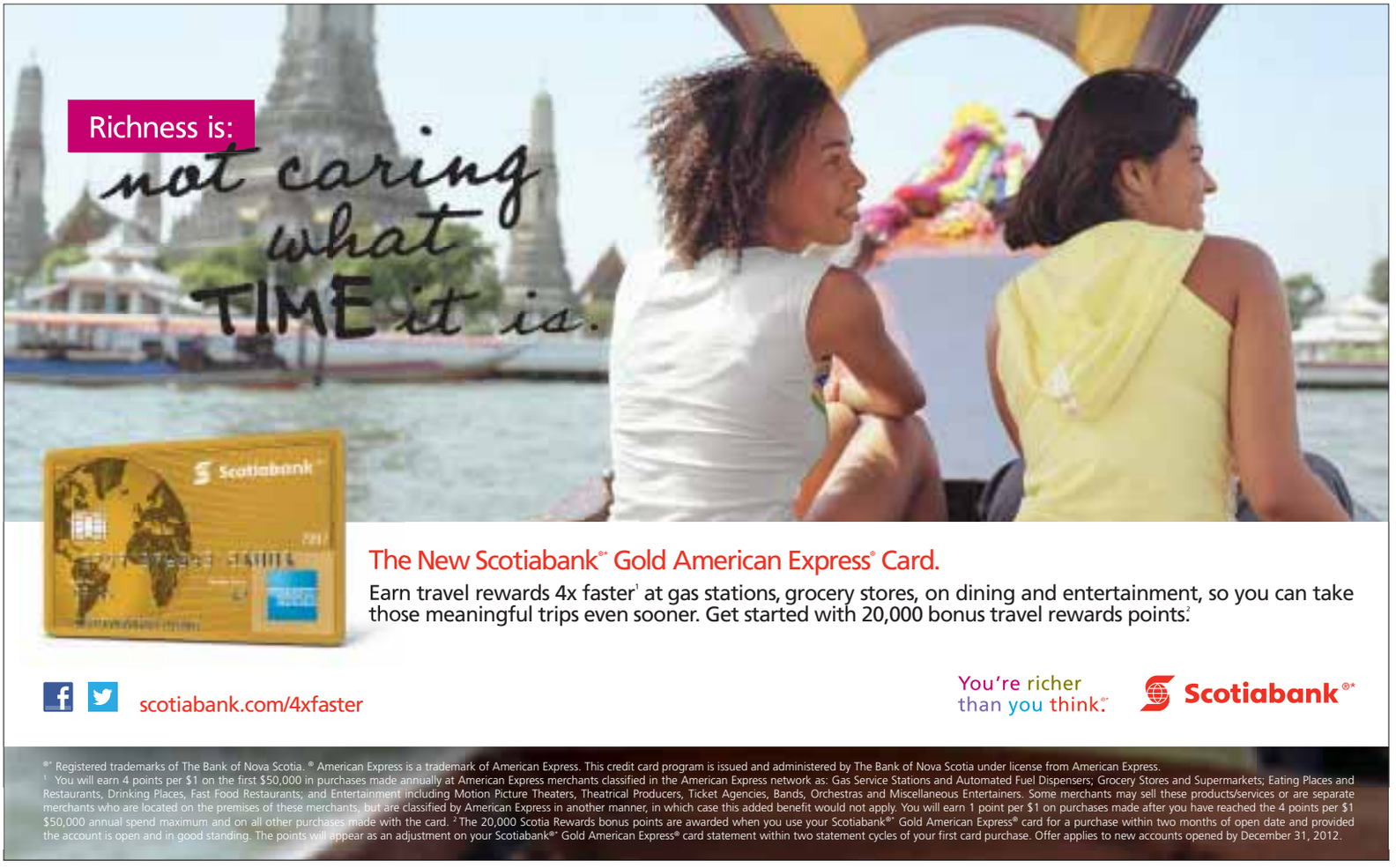
This recipes serves four. BRIAN MACDONALD, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

1. Dust the turkey with flour. Spray a non-stick grill pan or skillet with cooking oil, add the vegetable oil and heat to medium. Sauté the turkey just until browned on both sides and no longer pink, about 8 minutes in total. Remove from the heat and keep covered.

2. To make the salsa, combine the apricots, cranberries, bell pepper, green onion, garlic, cilantro, jam, maple syrup, mustard and lemon juice.

3. Spoon the salsa over the turkey and garnish with cilantro or parsley.

ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN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Student voice

Don't delay the discovery of your potential

Rainee Nelson
Student
Professional Writing
Algonquin College

TalentEgg.ca

When I finished high school last summer, I was planning to go to post-secondary school the next winter and I thought everything would be fine.

My plan for the summer was to spend as much time with my friends as possible, because they were going off to university in the fall and I also was searching for a job. When September came around and all my friends headed off to university, it was lonely, but I needed to continue with my job search.

Due to my indecisiveness, I chose not to pursue the program I registered for and opted for taking a year off to work. So I started up my job search again. I sat down at the computer and just Googled all the stores and companies I could think of and just sent them my resumé.

I got two interviews, one I thought went pretty well and the other, not so much.

Rainee Nelson. PROVIDED

I've gotten emails back saying they'll look at my profile/resumé and they'll be in touch, but no one got in touch.

After a while, I felt like no one had seen my resumé or even cared to look because I didn't have much experience.

Well, how can I gain experience if no one would give me a chance? But I kept looking and I'm still looking. I'm not sure if it's my resumé or my interview skills (even though I've only been in two my whole life) but, who knows. Practice makes perfect.

What I'm doing now

Right now I'm still currently looking for a job and I'm considering doing some internship work. Maybe that could add to my experience.

My recommendations for employers, career centres and schools

I haven't had enough experience to give a recommendation, but from the last interview I had I would say to the employers: make the interviewee as comfortable as possible. How are you going to get to know someone and see if they are up for the job if you can see them fumbling over their words, constantly moving around and downright being a nervous wreck? Making someone else feel comfortable as well will make the whole interview process a lot easier, I believe.

My advice for other students and recent graduates

My advice would be don't leave it to the last minute. Do your research, have someone look over your resumé and just go for it. If you truly want something, take risks and see what happens. Don't be lazy or procrastinate or you'll end up in the same position as I am.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE.

The school of rock

What a prospect!

Dreaming of a post that will let you pursue your passion for travel? Mining may be the field for you

ASHLEIGH TRAHAN
TalentEgg.ca

Dig deep and ask yourself: is this the right career for you?
FLICKR / RICK MCCHARLES

As a recruiter, I've searched for professionals to fill roles with clients across the globe, in a wide variety of industries.

One industry has truly stood out in terms of the opportunities it presents to work abroad: mining.

I've encountered mining engineers who have been able to work their way around the world on amazing projects in the most remote corners of the earth.

If you are looking to experience different countries and cultures, you should consider a career in mining!

You can certainly work for the head office of a mining company without leaving the confines of big cities like Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary. But if Bay Street isn't your style, a mining career could be your ticket to adventure in remote, rugged locations both in Canada and abroad.

For example, Canadian mining company Teck Resources has mine sites from the Red Dog zinc-lead mine in northwestern Alaska, to the Quebrada Blanca mine in northern Chile. Goldcorp's largest operation is their Red Lake site in northern Ontario, but their operations also span to multiple sites in Mexico, if you prefer sun over snowshoes.

As you may suspect, mining companies often hire young professionals with backgrounds in engineering and geology, but those are not the only opportunities to make a career in the industry.

Long before mines are producing tons of precious metals per day, there are thousands of workers required to create the budgets, do the legal legwork and bring the mine into production.

Often, mining companies will hire surveyors, engineers and geologists for a few years to support the design and build of a mine, and then they'll move on to a different project.

These lucky folks get to travel around the world and spend a few years in Australia before moving onto their next project in Panama. When the mine is actually operational, all sorts of support staff to keep the mine operations running smoothly — health and safety experts, information technology professionals, and skilled trades, to name a few.

So, even if you're looking to launch a career in human resources, for example, there are opportunities for you in the mining industry.

Working in remote locations and new countries may present challenges that working in a cubicle may not (like being a few hundred kilometres from the nearest Starbucks), it also provides the opportunity to be exposed to new cultures while gaining experience in an exciting and innovative industry.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Here's the drill

How does one land an overseas job in mining?

- Research mining companies on TalentEgg. Many Canadian mining companies offer new grad programs that allow for rotations across the country and internationally, so do some research on which new grad programs would be best for you and apply!
- If you want to track down information on where in the world you could work, a quick search will help you dig up all sorts of mining knowledge. Interested in surface mines, or would you prefer underground? You can find out which specific types of mine operations are out there, where they're located and who owns them.

Once you've done all your research, updated your passport and applied to jobs that are of interest to you in your choice exotic locale, here are some things to keep in mind while you're trying to land your overseas job:

- Getting a job in Canada can sometimes take weeks or months, so expect that an overseas job will take longer. Time zone differences can make scheduling interviews a real challenge. Be accommodating with your recruiting contacts.
- Recognize that arranging visas, travel plans and living arrangements can take plenty of time and mountains paperwork. Be patient and use this time to plan for all your exciting overseas adventures!

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MLB

A-Rod says latest PED accusations 'not true'

Alex Rodriguez denied a newspaper report that accused him of buying human growth hormone and other performance-enhancing substances from a Miami-area clinic.

The Miami New Times, an alternative weekly, reported Tuesday it had obtained records detailing purchases by Rodriguez and Toronto outfielder Melky Cabrera, among other baseball players, from a clinic run by Anthony Bosch.

Rodriguez admitted four years ago that he used PEDs from 2001 to 2003.

"The news report about a purported relationship between Alex Rodriguez and Anthony Bosch are not true," Rodriguez said in a statement issued by a publicist. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

X-Games

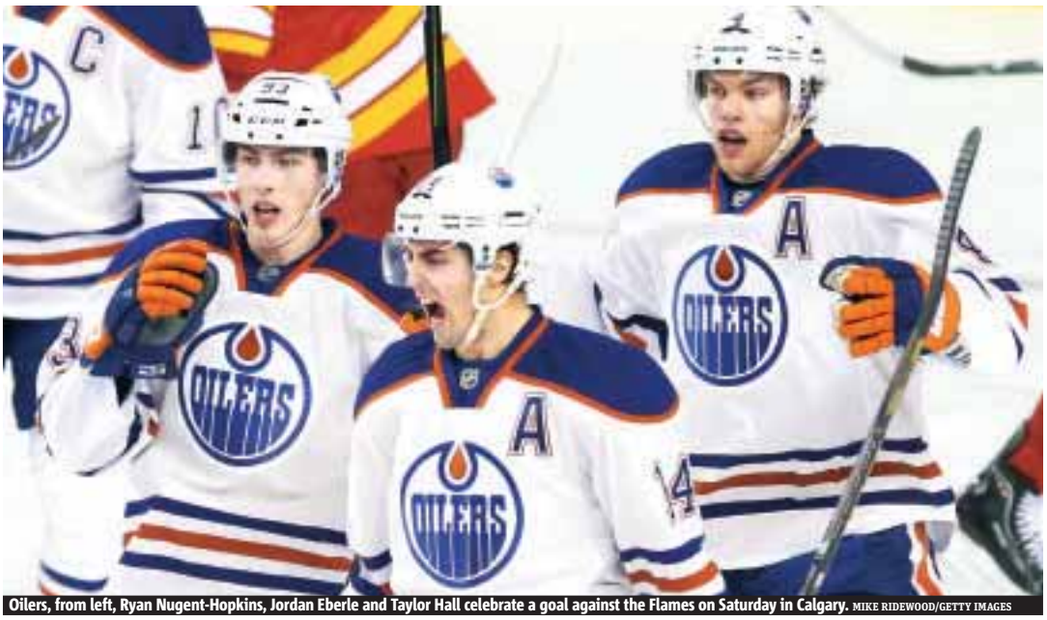
Family doubtful of snowmobiler's survival after crash

Snowmobiler Caleb Moore was in critical condition Tuesday in a Colorado hospital after a dramatic crash at the X-Games.

Moore was performing a flip Thursday when he clipped the top of a jump and went over the handlebars and landed face first into the snow. The snowmobile rolled over him, but he walked off with help and went to a hospital with a concussion. Moore later developed bleeding around his heart

"Caleb is not doing good at all," Caleb's grandfather Charles Moore told The Denver Post. "The prognosis is not good at all. It's almost certain he's not going to make it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Oilers, from left, Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Jordan Eberle and Taylor Hall celebrate a goal against the Flames on Saturday in Calgary. MIKE RIDEWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Oilers not worried about uneven offence

NHL. Young club finding early scoring success on power play, not so much at even strength

Quoted

"We do feel like we're creating a lot of chances and getting a lot of shots ... it's just not going in for us five-on-five."

Oilers forward Taylor Hall

Scoring goals has not been a problem for the young Edmonton Oilers so far in this abbreviated season.

How they're scoring, however, is a bit of an issue.

With the likes of Regina's Jordan Eberle, Taylor Hall, Sam Gagner, Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Ales Hemsky and No. 1 draft pick Nail Yakupov, it was safe to expect that the Oilers would have an impressive offence.

So far that has proven to be true. The Oilers have scored 15 goals in five games, and with three wins sit atop the Northwest Division.

The problem is, only three of those goals have been scored five-on-five. On Monday night all four of their goals in a 4-1 win over Colorado came on the power play.

Only one of Edmonton's three even-strength goals has had any impact on a game's outcome. Yakupov scored with five seconds left in the third period against Los Angeles last Thursday to force overtime, where the Oilers won with a power-play goal.

Their other five-on-five goals were scored by Hall, late in a 6-3 loss to San Jose, and by Gagner, with two seconds left in a 4-3 loss in Calgary.

"The power play has been awesome, creating a lot of goals," Eberle said prior to the team heading out on a three-game road trip that will see them play Wednesday in Phoenix, Thursday in San Jose and Saturday in Colorado. "When you're struggling five-on-five it's great to have that. The five-on-five goals will come, but in the meantime if we're scoring (power-play goals) and we're winning games you don't have to worry about it."

That's certainly the attitude of the players: Why worry about even-strength goals when they're scoring enough on the power play to win three of five games?

"If we were losing games it would be an issue, but right now we're winning games with the power play and keeping the puck out of our net," said Eberle, who has all three of his goals on the power play.

The Oilers have been using their speed to force opponents to take penalties. Edmonton has had 28 power-play opportunities and are scoring at a 36-per-cent rate with the man advantage, second only to San Jose. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Subban deal gets chilly response from Habs

It wasn't exactly smiles and high fives in the Montreal Canadiens dressing room on Tuesday with the news that P.K. Subban's contract dispute had finally ended.

In fact, the mood was surprisingly chilly from a team that started the shortened NHL season 3-1-0 without their top defenceman from last season.

Subban signed a two-year $5.75 million US contract Monday night and will rejoin the club Wednesday in Ottawa.

Veteran rearguard Andrei Markov refused to talk about it, saying, "He's not in the room yet, so let's talk about it when he's going to be in the room."

Quoted

"I've never had to deal with a holdout situation, a guy coming in late, so we'll take it in stride."

Habs defenceman Josh Gorges on P.K. Subban

And Josh Gorges, Subban's regular defence partner, steered around questions.

"To be honest, I'm glad that we don't have to talk about it any more," said Gorges. "It's a non-issue now and we can focus on getting ready to play the games without anything else to think about."

Asked if he was glad to have Subban back, Gorges said: "It's good that it's over and done with and it's settled. We don't have to have these talks in the morning of what-if-this and what-if-that."

Often, when a player signs a contract, there are a flood of congratulatory tweets, but this time there were only a couple from players who were not on the Canadiens last season.

After inking his deal, the 23-year-old Subban said he couldn't wait to "reintegrate" with the team.

But it appears he has some work to do with his teammates. THE CANADIAN PRESS

P.K. Subban takes a breather during a skate at the Mastercard Centre for Hockey Excellence in Toronto on Jan. 9. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Teen drives his parents crazy

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Part of me wants to scold the kid for being so reckless, another part of me wants to congratulate him. ISTOCK

Not sure about you, but I'm conflicted about the actions of that 13-year-old driver from Italy.

A couple of weeks ago, after a dispute with his adopted parents about cellphone charges and the subsequent confiscation of his cellphone, he took off in his father's Mercedes-Benz, with the plan to visit his biological sister in Poland.

He took his passport and the equivalent of about $260. He managed to get fuel, cross two borders, and cover about 600 kilometres before he was picked up by German police and returned to his parents.

One side of me says, way to go Bud, you just caused incredible grief to everyone who cares about you and endangered hundreds of motorists from Italy to Poland.

Another side of me says, that was awesome, Bud. Not only the driving, but also the chutzpah. I can hardly cross back over the Buffalo border with a pair of undeclared Rockports on my feet.

Apparently he is a go-cart racer and actually looks like he's about 16. But still. Italy to Poland in your father's Mercedes when you're 13? You did your teenage tribe and human race proud.

We obviously shouldn't be condoning this kind of behaviour, but it is consistent with how researchers say the teenage brain is wired — particularly with boys — and possibly how teenagers "should" behave on occasion.

They have a need to take risks, and the gene pool benefits from people who learn from their risk taking when the stakes are lower.

Risk taking during adolescence is seen in all mammals, so there must be some biological reason for it. Just saying.

According to a study, called Why Do Boys Engage in More Risk Taking Than Girls by Barbara A. Morrongiello and Heather Rennie at the University of Guelph, boys have both nature and nurture-related reasons for their increased risk taking.

We encourage and/or tolerate more risk taking in our boys, and they generally are more optimistic about their chances.

And if it doesn't go so good, boys often just mark it down to bad luck. Boys are also more prone to pro rate their injury chances — a small injury is entirely OK. Girls see any chance of injury and just say no. They are smarter.

Puberty also plays a role. Apparently the section in the brain that computes emotion and social interaction is overactive during puberty, while the section designated for regulating behaviour is still a work-in-progress until early adulthood.

All this is not to justify the actions of our guy in Italy, but we should at least know what he was up against. And we should also note that he was not using his cellphone at any time during his drive. Yes, his parents took it away from him. But he was practising safe smartphone etiquette. You can't say he wasn't.

Parts Department

Whether it's a birthday gift for a friend or loved one or just something for yourself, here are some ideas for unique automotive-inspired presents.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Give 'em the chair

For serious followers of the racing scene, Lasir Furniture of Switzerland has created this one-of-a-kind chair that is a tribute to the early 1970s Porsche 917 endurance racing cars sponsored by Gulf Oil. The chair is constructed just like a modern race car and uses a hollow molded carbon fibre manufacturing process that makes it extremely light and durable. The finish is done up in Gulf's classic blue and orange paint scheme that has been approved by the oil company. At $2,300, the Gulf chair isn't cheap, but it will always be very exclusive and something you and your friends will talk about for years. Visit laisr.com to get yours.

Drinking on track

Always a fine addition to any gearhead's bar, these cool racetrack coasters are guaranteed to attract plenty of attention. The track layouts etched into each one include Laguna Seca near Monterey, Calif., the Monaco street course, and the Nürburgring track in Germany. Each coaster is produced from layered high-density polyethylene plastic and come with a non-skid base. The full set of six coasters sells for $40 US from a number of online outlets, including griotsgarage.com.

Fold your own vehicle

Origami is alive and well when it comes to making automobile representations. All you need is an sharp hobby knife, some glue and a pattern created by Jesse Smith who is the driving force behind Paper Cruisers. The company focuses on pickup trucks and off roaders, including the Jeep Wrangler, Ford SVT Raptor and Toyota FJ Cruiser. All are amazingly life-like and can be had in a variety of colours. Each fold-up model is priced in the $7 US range. You can check out the complete lineup and place your order at papercruiser.com.

ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
The important thing today is that you focus your energy in a single direction. Because if you have more than one target, you will reduce your chances of success. What is your number one goal? Make it your only goal.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may be under the impression that if you don't grab what is being offered, you will miss out or fall behind. That isn't true. You will be more of a success in the long-term if you slow down a bit now.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Jupiter, planet of good fortune, turns direct in your sign today. So there is no reason at all why you should hold back, and every reason why you should surge ahead of the pack. Show your rivals what real speed looks like.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Be careful what you say to colleagues and employers today because if they feel you are being unfair, they may turn against you. If you have to be blunt at least make sure what you say is factually true.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You won't hesitate to point out other people's faults today. In fact once you start, you may find it hard to stop. That's OK but don't forget it works both ways: Expect to have a few of your own failings highlighted.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Jupiter, planet of abundance, turns direct in the rewards and reputation area of your chart, so good things are sure to come your way. Don't worry if that seems to upset some people. They're jealous of your success.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You can afford to be optimistic and you can afford to believe that the risks you take will pay off — mostly, they will. But even when they occasionally go wrong, it won't be a big deal. You're a winner.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
If you are told something of a privileged nature today, you must keep it to yourself. If you let everyone in on the secret you won't be confided in again. In fact, you may in future be the last one to know.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This looks like an excellent day for partnerships, especially those of a romantic nature. Jupiter in your opposite sign of Gemini will wash away any issues you have with the person you love most.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will get through tasks and chores, both at home and at work, in record quick time today. You're a whirlwind that can't be controlled! Remember though that it's not all about speed. Make a good job of what you do too.

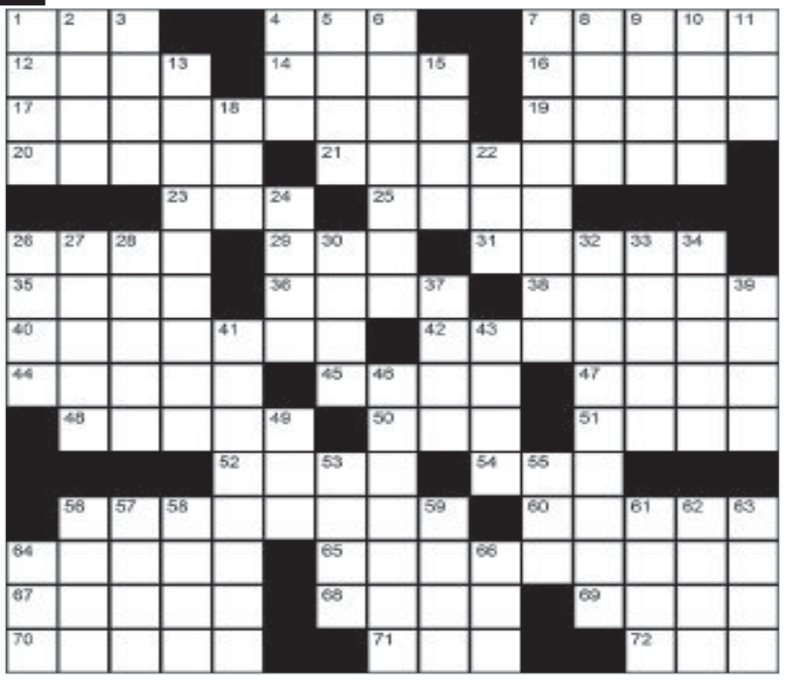
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Generally speaking, this is still one of the best times of the year for you. But with the Sun at right angles to Saturn today, you may need to watch your back. Do you have a secret enemy? Yes, it seems you do.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You are trying too hard to convince someone that you know what you are talking about. The more you try to persuade them, the more suspicious they get. But why do you need to convince them? Let your actions speak for you.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

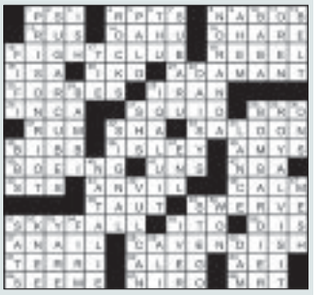
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Incidentally, texting-style
4. Blueprint
7. Big earrings
12. Press
14. Ornamental case
16. 2004 Jude Law movie remake
17. "Sunglasses at Night" singer: 2 wds.
19. 10-cent pieces
20. Van Halen guitarist
21. Born-in-Toronto film legend Mary
23. __ Angeles
25. Popular style of cooking
26. "Holy __!"
29. Work __ sweat: 2 wds.
31. V- and Crew
35. Protest song by #13-Down
36. Laundry fuzz
38. "Dancing with the Stars" alum Ms. Ali
40. Vancouver players
42. Batman foe, The __
44. Rock gig venue
45. Cosmetics company
47. "The Sopranos" actor, Robert __
48. Type of cow
50. TGIF part
51. Back muscles, to a bodybuilder
52. Not found
54. "Voices Carry" by '__ Tuesday
56. Airfield in Afghanistan
60. Nova Scotia's __ Trail
64. More wise
65. Victoria-born artist: 2 wds.
67. 'The Hub' of Nova Scotia
68. "White Flag" songstress
69. Place
70. Designer Calvin
71. Fresh
72. "For shame!"

Down
1. "American Idol" alum Bo
2. Step heavily
3. Microsoft program
4. "Not impressed."
5. _ ___ on the shoulder
6. Prude
7. Canadian astronaut Chris
8. Hodgepodge
9. "Being for the Benefit __ __. Kite!" by The Beatles
10. __ Piper
11. The Outsiders author Ms. Hinton's
13. Crosby, Stills & Nash bandmate, at times: 2 wds.
15. "The Seven Year __" (1955)
18. Royal officer, for short
22. The Sunflower State [abbr.]
24. Pout
26. Dominican Republic city
27. Canadian actress Catherine
28. Classic fabric
30. Famous Tower
32. Cars like Elvis' pink one
33. Harper Lee's To __ _ Mockingbird
34. Rain/snow mix
37. Horse speed
39. Train stn. postings
41. Olympics symbol in Vancouver
43. Research facil.
46. Multi-__
49. "__ _ guy walks into..." (Classic joke intro)
53. Backyard storage
55. Glacial
56. Mr. Malden
57. Fluish feeling
58. Italian saint, Philip __
59. Amusement park feature
61. Decoy
62. Bits of food
63. "Star __
64. 'S' in NYSE, shortened
66. Unhigh

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	6		8		1		3	
8								6
		3	7		9	4		
	4		1	8	3		2	
	8						9	
	3		9	7	6		1	
		4	5		2	1		
7								3
	5		6		7		4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

Sharability

easy hard

CITY WIDE DELIVERY
GIFTS FOR YOUR VALENTINE
VALENTINE BALLOON BOUQUETS
GIFT BASKETS & PLUSH
BUTTER AND CREAM FUDGE
BALLOONS BY FRED
565-0899 | 541 ALBERT STREET | 565-0899

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